

On page 25, at line 28, after "3", insert -- (SEQ ID NO:16) --.

After page 33, insert new pages 34-44 (SEQUENCE LISTING) and renumber the subsequent pages accordingly.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 1-12 without prejudice.

Add new Claims 13-24:

--13. Virus-like particles comprised of recombinant human papillomavirus type 18 L1 protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:1.

a20 ~~2~~ 14. The virus-like particles of Claim ~~13~~¹¹ which further comprise recombinant L2 protein.

15. A vaccine comprising the virus-like particles of Claim 13.

16. A vaccine comprising the virus-like particles of Claim 14.

17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the virus-like particles of Claim 13.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the virus-like particles of Claim 14.

C-1 ~~7~~ 19. A method of preventing papillomavirus infection comprising ~~administering~~⁵²⁸ administration of the vaccine of Claim 15 to a host.

C-1 ~~8~~ 20. A method of preventing papillomavirus infection comprising ~~administering~~⁶²⁸ administration of the vaccine of Claim 16 to a host.

c 9 ~~24~~. A method for producing the virus-like particles of Claim ~~1~~,
comprising:

- Q2
- (a) preparing a vector comprising a DNA molecule of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (b) transforming a host cell with the vector of step (a) to produce a transformed cell;
 - (c) cultivating the transformed cell under conditions that permit production of recombinant human papillomavirus L1 protein; and
 - (d) purifying the protein under conditions that permit formation of the virus-like proteins.

c 10 ~~22~~. A method of inducing an immune response in an animal comprising ~~administration of~~ ^{administering} the virus-like particle Claim ~~13~~ to the animal.

c 11 ~~23~~. ^{Isolated or purified virus-like} Virus-like particles comprised of recombinant human papillomavirus type 18 L1 protein, ~~the L1 protein~~ the L1 protein having amino acid R at position 30, amino acid N at position 88, amino acid R at position 283 and amino acid R at position 338.

24. Virus-like particles comprised of recombinant human papillomavirus type 18 L1 protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.--

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed September 23, 1996, and the references cited therein have been considered. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-12 are pending and have been rejected. Claims 1-12 have been canceled without prejudice. New Claims 13-24 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicants regard as their invention. Inasmuch